

# Literacy Links

Volume IV, Issue I

August 2003

## Special points of interest:

- Best Practice Seminars  
August 21, 22
- Authors on the Beach  
September 26, 27
- SCRI-Middle School
- Reading First Grant

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## ELA Team Welcomes You

The South Carolina Department of Education's English Language Arts team welcomes you to a new school year. Contact any member of the team if you need any help or support throughout the year.



**Suzette Lee**

Coordinator of the ELA Team and the Governor's Institute of Reading

803-734-6103

slee@sde.state.sc.us



**Pam Wills**

Coordinator of SC Reading First

803-734-8391

pwills@sde.state.sc.us



**Pat Branham**

SC Reading First

803-734-4326

pbranham@sde.state.sc.us

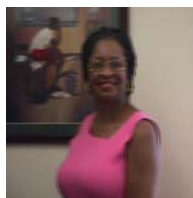


**Cathy Jones**

ELA Standards Implementation K-12 and SDE Liaison for SCRI K-5 (New)

803-734-0790

cjones@sde.state.sc.us



**Pat Patterson**

High School ELA, GIR High School Best Practice Seminar Series and Summer Institutes, SCRI K-5 Continuing Contact

803-734-0242

ppatters@sde.state.sc.us

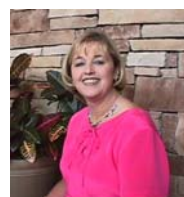


**Caroline Savage**

Middle School ELA, GIR Middle School Best Practice Seminar Series, Middle Level Coordination

803-734-4770

csavage@sde.state.sc.us



**Pam Huxford**

Coordinator for Reading Recovery, SDE Liaison for SC READS

803-734-8825

phuxford@sde.state.sc.us



**Allison Norwood**

High School ELA, Applied Academics—Communication for the Workplace

803-734-2469

anorwood@sde.state.sc.us

The ELA team also has a great support staff that can answer many of your questions when a team member is not available.

Gail Tyndale 803-734-8556

Sonya Green 803-734-2372

Lillian Winters 803-734-8155

The fax number for the ELA team is 803-734-6142.

## 2003-04 Middle and High School Best Practice Seminars

*Sponsored by the Governor's Institute of Reading at the State Department of Education and the South Carolina Chapter of the International Reading Association*

During 2003-04, the Governor's Institute of Reading (GIR), in collaboration with the South Carolina Chapter of the International Reading Association (SCIRA), is sponsoring a series of six best practice seminars on the teaching of reading and writing in the middle grades and high school. For the past three years, the GIR and SCIRA have partnered to provide middle and high school teachers with quality professional development on implementing the English language arts standards in grades 6-12 across all of the content areas.

Attached is a tentative schedule of this year's seminars. Please note that three of the seminars will be offered as preconference sessions at the following annual state conferences—South Carolina Council of Teachers of English (SCCTE), South Carolina Chapter of the International Reading Association (SCIRA), and the South Carolina Middle School Asso-

ciation (SCMSA). We will publish registration information for each seminar one month prior to the scheduled session in *Literacy Links*.

The first seminar, entitled Writing and Thinking Skills Across the Curriculum, will be held on August 21, 2003, for middle school teachers and August 22, 2003, for high school teachers in the Environmental Education Center at Saluda Shoals Park in Irmo. This workshop, presented by Henry Dembowski, will focus on strategies and techniques to improve writing in the different domains: descriptive, narrative, practical and formative, and expository. The seminar will begin at 9:00 A.M. and end at 3:00 P.M. Registration will begin at 8:30 A.M., with coffee being served from 8:30-9:00 A.M. Lunch will be provided. The cost of the seminar is \$50, which will help defray the cost of space, food, and materials, which will include a book of the presenter's choice.

To register for the seminar, please mail the attached registration form and a check made payable to SCIRA for \$50 for the seminar to Judy Redman at P.O. Box 10101, Rick Hill, South Carolina 299731. Payment is due with registration. No purchase orders will be accepted. Space is limited to 80 participants. Participation will be on a first-come with check, first served basis. A confirmation e-mail will be sent to registrants with directions and details for the seminar. Unless you receive a confirmation, do not consider yourself registered.

If you have any questions concerning your registration, please contact Judy Redman at [jredman@comporium.net](mailto:jredman@comporium.net). If you have any questions concerning the seminar, contact Pat Patterson (high school) at 803-734-0242 or [ppatterson@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:ppatterson@sde.state.sc.us) or Caroline Savage (middle school) at 803-734-4770 or [csavage@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:csavage@sde.state.sc.us).

## K-5 Reading Textbook Adoption

Textbook adoption for K-5 Reading is on the horizon!

The Instructional Materials Review Panel met this summer to hear publisher presentations in response to the call for materials. The call was written such that publishers must submit integrated language arts programs which include leveled texts. Each program submitted must also address the four strands (Reading, Writing, Communication, and Research)

of the South Carolina English Language Arts Curriculum Standards and the five components of effective reading instruction as outlined by the National Reading Panel Report. The five components are comprehension, phonics, phonemic awareness, vocabulary, and fluency.

The review panel will reconvene this fall to formulate the list of program recommendations to be submitted in De-

cember to the State Board of Education for approval. Once the State Board approves the list of materials, districts will begin reviewing materials for selection. New materials will be used in schools beginning in the fall of 2004.

Should you have questions regarding the K-5 Reading textbook adoption, please contact Cathy Jones at 803-734-0790 or [cjones@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:cjones@sde.state.sc.us).



**Anyone need a book? Just a sample of what review panel members have re-**

***A life spent in making mistakes is not only more honorable  
but more useful than a life spent in doing nothing.***

***George Bernard Shaw***

## Authors Hit the Beach in September

Authors at the Beach #3 Literacy Conference, sponsored by KidConnection, is at Carolina Forest Elementary School just off Highway 501, six miles west of Myrtle Beach, September 26 and 27, 2003. Registration opens at 5:00 P.M. Friday afternoon. The conference will begin on Friday evening at 7:00 P.M. with a general session where all authors/illustrators/storytellers will present a "short something" from their body of work. This will be followed by an autographing session that will continue until all books are signed. RL Bryan

will again be operating the conference bookstore. Only books purchased at the conference bookstore will be signed by the authors during the conference. All proceeds from book sales pay for the travel expenses of the authors.

On Saturday, the sessions will begin at 8:00 A.M. The sessions will conclude mid afternoon with a final autograph session at 4:00 P.M. so that conference attendees may begin travel home at their leisure.

Registration fees received before August 15 will be \$75

each. All registration fees received after August 15 will be \$100 per registration. The year, this conference will be limited to only 1000 participants.

To reserve your place at Authors on the Beach #3, fill out the attached registration form and fax it to 843-448-0929, e-mail it to KidConnect2002@aol.com, or mail it to KIDCONNECTION: 2970-28 Swan Court, Myrtle Beach, SC, 29577.

For more information, contact Annie Smith at 843-450-5653.



**The beach is great any time, but it's so much better with a book.**

## South Carolina Literary Tour Maps Available

The Palmetto Book Alliance, a partnership of the South Carolina State Library and the School of Library and Information Science, University of South Carolina, has just published The South Carolina Literary Tour, a literary map of South Carolina.

The writers listed on this map have significant ties to South Carolina. They were either born here, lived here, or have somehow formed an attach-

ment to the state that enabled them to reflect something significant about South Carolina in their writings.

Because space prevents an exhaustive listing of writers, instructors and students in the School of Library and Information Science at the University of South Carolina have developed a digital literary map, [www.scpalmettobookalliance.org](http://www.scpalmettobookalliance.org).

Click on projects.

The web site is linked to the Palmetto Book Alliance's site and provides details about the lives, work, and significance of these and other writers.

This literary map and its web site highlight the rich and varied literary history of the Palmetto State. It should prove to be a valuable educational tool for those teaching South Carolina literature and history. The map is available in public libraries and PRT Welcome Centers

**"Experience is not what happens to you; it is what you do with what happens to you."**

*Aldous Huxley*

## Reading Recovery and SC Literacy Conference News

The State Department of Education is pleased to continue cooperative efforts with Clemson University to support the training of Reading Recovery teacher leaders and teachers.

Dr. Susan King Fullerton has accepted the Reading Recovery Trainer position at Clemson and will share her Reading Recovery expertise with Reading Recovery teacher leaders, teachers, and children, as well as with districts implementing

Reading Recovery.

With the announcement of Dr. Fullerton joining the faculty of Clemson University and serving as South Carolina's Reading Recovery Trainer, a Reading Recovery teacher leader-training class is being offered for the 2003-2004 school year. Six teachers will be involved in this yearlong teacher leader training. In addition to the Reading Recovery teacher leader class, six teacher-

training classes are being offered across the state.

The Literacy Spot Award is sponsored by the South Carolina Reading Recovery Advisory Council, SDE, and the University Training Center at Clemson to recognize outstanding emergent literacy programs in primary schools in the state. Information regarding this year's award will be posted to SDE's website in September. This year the second annual

South Carolina Literacy Conference will be held again in Charleston, December 15-16, at the Charleston Place Hotel. Registration forms will be available in September.

For additional information regarding Reading Recovery or the SC Literacy Conference, contact Pam Huxford at 803-734-8825 or [phuxford@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:phuxford@sde.state.sc.us).

## South Carolina Receives Reading First Grant

Reading First, part of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, is the largest early reading initiative ever undertaken in this country with unprecedented funding. Reading First will assist schools in implementing classroom practices based on scientifically based reading research (SBRR) so that all children will learn to read well by the end of third grade.

South Carolina received its Reading First grant, April 2003, in the amount of \$13,639,517. Based on the criteria established in the Reading First guidance, 51 eligible districts were identified. These districts were notified and invited to attend an awareness session in June 2003. Since then, a newer census and PACT data was examined for districts that were not part of the original list. It was determined that the list of eligible districts re-

mains as originally given.

District Leadership Teams will be guided through the competitive subgrant process within Technical Assistance Workshops. These will be held at the Columbia Conference Center on Wednesday, September 10, Wednesday, September 24, Wednesday, October 8, and Tuesday, October 21. Registration is from 9:30 to 10:00 A.M. These sessions are from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. with lunch provided. District Leadership Teams must consist of the district contact and the principal(s) from the school(s) applying. The team may include representative K-3 teachers, a representative special education teacher, and/or a media specialist.

Grants are due to the State Department of Education, Office of Curriculum and

Standards, by 5:00 P.M. on Monday, December 1, 2003. Districts will be notified of their acceptance by mid January 2004.

In addition to the SC Reading First grant process, a workshop series is currently being developed. All SC districts are eligible to participate in these sessions. These workshops will provide an opportunity for teachers to build a solid knowledge base of the five components of reading and will examine scientifically based reading research in terms of classroom practices and assessment. A calendar and registration information for the workshop series will be shared as dates and locations are finalized.

For more information about SC Reading First, visit <http://www.myschools.com/Curriculum and Standards>.

## South Carolina Summer Literacy Institutes

The Governor's Institute of Reading (GIR) sponsored two summer institutes for middle and high school teachers.

### Janet Allen's It's Never Too Late Literacy Institute

The Janet Allen "It's Never Too Late Literacy Institute" was held at White Knoll Middle School on June 16-19. Dr. Allen focused on practical ideas for teachers using strategic reading strategies in the middle and high school classroom. Reading/language arts teachers, content area teachers, curriculum specialists, and administrators gained practical information for rethinking literacy in grades 4-12 classrooms.

The institute was based on research from Dr. Allen's almost 30 years in education. Participants opened each day with a keynote by Dr. Allen. Breakout sessions followed

with teacher/facilitators who have worked extensively with Dr. Allen to implement and refine a balanced literacy program in their own classrooms. Each day concluded with exciting culminating experiences and opportunities with authors and inspirational speakers.

### Reading and Writing in the Middle Grades with

#### Maureen Barbeiri

An institute for middle level educators was held with Maureen Barbeiri at Furman University. This week-long institute focused on immersing teachers as readers and writers. Participants explored the significant relationship between reading and writing across multiple genres and developed specific approaches to the teaching of reading and writing. The institute focused on the importance of developing a

strong sense of community within a teacher's class as he or she works with adolescents as readers and writers.

One teacher said, "The institute was informative, interesting, and exciting. It provided a

warm environment to interact with fellow teachers and to share ideas. The wealth of information presented was useful and up to date. Maureen is simply wonderful!"



**Maureen started and ended each day with a circle so that participants could share their writings and concerns with other members.**



## ELA Curriculum Standards Update

Round two of the professional development sessions designed to support districts in the understanding and implementation of the English Language Arts Curriculum Standards 2002 will begin this fall.

This year, District Leadership Teams (DLT) will be invited to return as a group for one day

during the fall and again in January. Each DLT will be assigned a session to attend which will focus on district plans and further understanding and implementing the standards. National experts will provide a series of workshops focusing on best practices in implementing the standards in districts and schools four times

during the year. These sessions will also be one day in length and will require registration. Information regarding speakers, dates, and registration will be included in future editions of *Literacy Links* and will be sent to the DLT Team Leader.

Support materials continue to

be developed and will be posted to the State Department webpage as they become available.

Should you have questions regarding the English Language Arts Curriculum Standards, please contact Cathy Jones at [cjones@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:cjones@sde.state.sc.us) or 803-734-0790.

## Governor's Institute of Reading

Since 1999, the Governor's Institute of Reading (GIR) has endeavored to transform the teaching of readers and writers in South Carolina by providing high quality professional development to teachers of students in grades K-12. Created in 1999 as a collaborative venture between the Governor's Office, the State Department of Education, and the General Assembly, the GIR has the following goals:

- To review the best practices in the teaching of reading;
- To provide teachers with professional development and support for implementing best practices in the teaching of reading; and
- To award competitive grants to school districts for designing and providing a comprehensive approach to reading instruction based on best practices.

To this end, it has accomplished the following:

- Conducted the first-ever elementary and middle school reading summits.
- Created and implemented the South Carolina Reading Initiative (SCRI) in grades K-5, in collaboration with the University of South Carolina and the National Council of Teachers of English.
- Collaborated with the Office of Early Childhood at the SDE to implement SC READS, a federal grant program aimed at ensuring children in eligible pre-K-3 schools learn to read by the end of third grad.
- Collaborated with SCIRA to sponsor a best practice seminar series for middle and high school teachers on the teaching of reading and writing in

the content areas, as well as yearly best practice summer institutes for teachers of grades 4-12.

- Applied for and received a federal Reading First grant to continue the work of the SCRI in eligible K-3 schools beginning in January 2003 and providing professional development in effective reading instruction for all K-3 and K-12 special education teachers.
- Collaborated with the Governor's Office and various businesses to develop the Cool Books program aimed at providing quality children literature for reading aloud in grades pre-K-8.

During 2003-04, the GIR will continue its efforts to increase the knowledge base of teachers and thereby raise the achievement of students in districts and schools throughout the state. Its major activities include the following:

- Providing ongoing professional development to the SCRI K-5 literacy coaches who completed the three-year SCRI study in May 2003.
- Training a new cohort of SCRI K-5 literacy coaches starting in June 2003.
- Providing a second year of training for the SC READS literacy coaches.
- Assisting with the implementation of South Carolina's Reading First grant.
- Sponsoring the fourth GIR Best Practice Seminar Series for middle and high school teachers on the teaching of readers and writers in grades 6-12 and summer best practice institutes for teachers of students in grades 4-12.
- Implementing SCRI at the middle school level.

- Supporting the Cool Books program.

If you have questions about the GIR, please contact Suzette Lee at 803-734-6103 or [slee@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:slee@sde.state.sc.us) or a member of the ELA team feature on the front page of the newsletter.

### SCRI-MS

The Governor's Institute of Reading is please to announce the implementation of the South Carolina Reading Initiative in the middle grades (SCRI-MS) during 2003-04. The purpose of SCRI-MS is to improve the reading skills and strategies of middle school student in all content areas by increasing the knowledge base of teachers. Administrators and teachers in participating middle schools will work together over the four-year grant period to inquire about best practice in the teaching of adolescent readers and writers in after school study groups and then translate that theory into practice in classrooms. GIR-trained literacy coaches will facilitate these school-based study groups and provide in-class coaching to teachers.

With funding from the General Assembly, the GIR is awarding \$50,000 grants to the following districts to support the implementation of SCRI-MS

Anderson 5, Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Darlington, Dorchester 4, Greenwood 50, Lancaster, Laurens 56, Lexington 1, Lexington 2, Lexington 4, Lexington 5, Marion 1, Newberry, Richland 2, Spartanburg 1, Spartanburg 7, Sumter 17, Oconee, and York 3.

Thirteen other districts have been invited to train literacy coaches without a grant.

## BookSurge Establishes Classroom Publishing Grants

BookSurge, LLC invites you to join teachers from across the nation in using classroom publishing to create powerful student learning experiences and promote accomplished teaching. BookSurge is seeking applications from all teachers desiring to integrate technology and standards implementation in the classroom. Create your own classroom publishing project to empower your students and make learning fun.

The BookSurge Classroom Publishing Grant Program was established in the summer of

2003 to recognize outstanding teaching and instructional creativity through standards and technology integration in preK-12 classrooms throughout the United States.

The grant entitles one published title per school. The grant covers 100 percent of the cost of publishing your students' books, and printing and shipping costs (when the book is ordered from BookSurge.com or classroompublishing.org). This includes book formatting, cover design, and digital file set-up. You are also

given an ISBN and two free copies of the book and the poster—one for your class and one for your school library.

The grant application is designed to be completed quickly and easily during one planning period.

For more information about this exciting opportunity, visit the website at [classroompublishing.org](http://classroompublishing.org) or e-mail at [classroompublishing@booksurge.com](mailto:classroompublishing@booksurge.com) or [leah.England@booksurge.com](mailto:leah.England@booksurge.com).



**This is just a sample of what BookSurge can do for your classroom.**

## SDE Awards Eight Bread Loaf Fellowships

Three middle and five high school teachers were awarded \$6,000 fellowships which covered tuition, room, board, and other costs to study at the Bread Loaf School of English.

The Bread Loaf School is a summer graduate program of Middlebury College, offering courses at four sites: Vermont; Santa Fe, New Mexico; Alaska; and at Lincoln College, Oxford England. The South Carolina fellowship recipients were Rene Miles, Charleston County School of the Arts; Meghan Chandler, R.C. Edwards Middle School; Roger Dixon, Brentwood Middle School; Nicole

Champagne, R.B. Stall High School; Bonnie Disney, Scott's Branch High School; Joan Rocha, Dillon High School; Dana Clark, D.W. Daniel High School; and Eliza Duval, Summerville High School.

The high school teachers spent this summer at the New Mexico campus where they enrolled in one intensive graduate-level course in the teaching of writing and a second course in literature, creative writing, the teaching of writing, or theatre. The teachers may return for summer study in the future at any one of the four Bread Loaf campuses, and the coursework may be applied toward an M.A. or

M.Lit. at the Bread Loaf School.

During this summer session, the teachers received training in Bread Loaf's telecommunications network, BreadNet, and joined the Bread Loaf Teacher Network, a group of approximately 350 outstanding teachers from across the United States. They will receive support on BreadNet from the faculty and staff at Bread Loaf during this school year and become active participants in a statewide teaching and learning community dedicated to classroom inquiry and research, with special support for teachers seeking National Board Certification.

## Applied Academic Regulations and Communication for the Workplace Update

Regulation 43.225.A(1)(k) of the South Carolina School-to-Work Transition Act of 1994 states

"School districts shall ensure that each teacher teaching an applied academic course has completed appropriate training in applied methodology before teaching the applied academic course. Each teacher shall be certified in the appropriate academic field to teach the ap-

plied academic course."

Please note that failure to have applied academic teachers appropriately trained in applied methodology will result in an accreditation deficiency and is in violation of the regulation.

### Communication for the Workplace

Over the summer, a focus group was convened to gather information from districts and

teachers about the Tech Prep English courses that are offered across the state. Course content (in relation to the standards), textbooks, and teacher training have been a few of the issues discussed. This group plans to meet again in the fall to offer suggestions to make the teacher training more consistent across the state.

Because President Bush's education proposal eliminates the

Perkins Act, which funds the state's Tech Prep consortia, Tech Prep will experience serious reauthorization challenges beginning with the 2004-05 school year.

If you have any comments, questions, or suggestions concerning Tech Prep English, contact Allison Norwood at [anorwood@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:anorwood@sde.state.sc.us) or 803-734-2469.

**ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE ARTS  
TEAM  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION**

803-A Rutledge Building  
1429 Senate Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Phone: 803-734-6103  
Fax: 803-734-6142  
Email: [slee@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:slee@sde.state.sc.us)

[www.myschools.com](http://www.myschools.com)



**English  
Language Arts Team**

***Literacy Links volume IV***

**The mission of the South Carolina State Department of Education is to provide leadership and services to ensure a system of public education in which all students become educated, responsible, and contributing citizens.**

**The mission of the Office of Curriculum and Standards is to provide statewide leadership and serviced to schools and districts to ensure the implementation of grade-level standards-based instruction for all students.**

**Literacy Links is a publication of the English Language Arts Team of the South Carolina State Department of Education. Literacy Links is published once a month and is electronically distributed to districts and schools across the state. Any attachments to this publication will be on the pages following this page.**

**South Carolina Education  
Events and Conferences  
2003-2004  
(as of August 8, 2003)**

**AUGUST**

12	Presidential Awards Mentor Training, Midlands Tech Airport Campus, Columbia	14	2 DO, West Columbia
21-22	Middle/High School Best Practice Series, Saluda Shoals, Columbia	14	SC Geographic Alliance Geofest XXVI, USC, Columbia
29	Gifted and Talented New Coordinators Orientation, 9:00, SCEA Building, Columbia	15	Globalization 101, Round Top Elementary, Columbia
29	Gifted and Talented Coordinators Update, 11:00, SCEA Building, Columbia	15	Globalization 101, Round Top Elementary, Columbia
		17-18	Street Law Training, Sheraton Hotel, Columbia
		17-19	SCASA 2001 Personnel Administrators Fall Conference, Hyatt Regency, Greenville
		24	Reading First Technical Awareness Session, Columbia Conference Center, Columbia

**SEPTEMBER**

9	CSO Fall Update Meeting for Districts, State Museum, Columbia	24-25	Middle/High School Best Practice Series, Saluda Shoals, Columbia
10	Reading First Technical Awareness Session, Columbia Conference Center, Columbia	26	SDE Textbook Prioritization Meeting, R. L. Bryan, Columbia
12	Global Studies Workshop, Lexington 2 DO, West Columbia	26-27	We the People...Project Citizen Training, SC Bar, Columbia
13	Global Studies Workshop, Lexington	27	Foreign Language Performance Based Assessment Workshop, Vista Room, State Museum, Columbia

# Registration Form

## 2003–04 Middle and High School Best Practice Seminars *Sponsored by the GIR at the SDE and the SCIRA*

### **Seminar I: Writing and Thinking Skills Across the Curriculum** ***presented by Henry Dembowski***

**Instructions:** To register for this seminar, please complete this form and mail it and a ***check made payable to SCIRA for \$50.00*** to Judy Redman at Post Office Box 10101, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29731. Payment is due with registration. No purchase orders will be accepted. Participation will be on a first-come with check, first-served basis. A confirmation e-mail will be sent to registrants with directions and details for the seminar. Unless you receive a confirmation, do not consider yourself registered. If you have any questions concerning your registration, please contact Judy Redman at [jredman@comporium.net](mailto:jredman@comporium.net). If you have any questions concerning the seminar, contact Pat Patterson (high school) at 803-734-0242 or [ppatters@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:ppatters@sde.state.sc.us) or Caroline Savage (middle school) at 803-734-4770 or [csavage@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:csavage@sde.state.sc.us).

**Check one.**

- ☐ Middle school seminar (August 21, 2003)
- ☐ High school seminar (August 22, 2003)

**Please provide the following information.**

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Position\_\_\_\_\_Grade\_\_\_\_\_

District\_\_\_\_\_

School\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_ Fax (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail\_\_\_\_\_

Home Address\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_ Fax (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail\_\_\_\_\_



**Authors on the Beach #3 Literary Conference**  
**Sponsored by KidConnection**  
**September 26, 27 2003**

Please fill out the information below. Fax your reservation to 843-448-0929, e-mail to [KidConnect2002@aol.com](mailto:KidConnect2002@aol.com), or mail to KIDCONNECTION, 2970-28 Swan Court, Myrtle Beach, SC, 29577.

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Home Address\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone\_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

School Address\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment:\_\_\_\_\_Personal Check, \_\_\_\_\_School Check, \_\_\_\_\_ School P.O.

**All checks and school purchase orders are to be made payable to KIDCONNECTION. All registration fees, including checks representing purchase orders must be received by KidConnection on/or before September 20, 2003. Due to limited seating, all reservations held by KidConnection 2003 will be nonrefundable.**